Construction of railway overbridge at Barpeta

137. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is undertaking construction of any railway overbridge in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would consider a proposal for construction of railway overbridge at Barpeta Road connecting the P.W.D. road which lead to the famous Manas sanctuary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two works of Road over bridges (ROB) (i) at Athgaon in lieu of Level Crossing (LC) No. ST/9, Km.9/3-4 between Guwahati and Kamakhya stations and (ii) at Bongaigaon in lieu of LC No. SK-49, Km. 143/10-11 between Bongaingaon and New Bongaigaon in Assam have been completed and commissioned to traffic. In addition, one work of ROB at Rampur on Bongaigaon-Goalpara-Kamakhya line at LC No.255 NN between Mirza-Kukurmara stations is also being constructed where 100% work on Railway portion has been completed and approches work has progressed 10%.

(c) No, Sir. However, a proposal for construction of ROB at Barpeta in lieu of LC No. SK-37 on cost sharing basis was received from Deputy Commissioner, Barpeta, but the LC does not qualify for replacement on cost sharing basis due to lesser traffic density (88642 TVUs - Train Vehicle Units).

Integrated security system at stations

138. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had decided to set up an integrated security system of railway stations all over the country;

(b) if so, how many railway stations would be brought under the above security system;

(c) what is the cost of the project and how the allocations would be met; and

(d) whether all stations in Andhra Pradesh would have the above security systems and what criteria has been adopted to set up the system in a station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways have decided to set up an Integrated Security System. The above system will be installed under BOOT (Build, Own, Operate and Transfer) Model at important railway stations and all suburban stations in the metro cities of Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai.

For over hundred other stations, identified as vulnerable and sensitive, out-right purchase model with annual maintenance contract has been approved in 2 phases. BOOT (Build, Own,

Operate and Transfer) Model of and phase-I stations' proposals are to be implemented in 2008-09 and phase-II stations' proposals are to be implemented in 2009-10. The Integrated Security System consists of the following broad areas:—

- CCTV System.
- Access control.
- Personal and baggage screening system.
- Explosive detection and disposal system.

Cost of the Implementation of the above system will vary from station to station and will be assessed by General Managers as per the requirement of the station concerned.

(d) The following stations of Andra Pradesh have been coverd under Integrated Security System:—

(1) Secundrabad

(2) Hyderabad

(3) Tirupati

(4) Vishakapatnam

The sensitivity and vulnerability of the station, as assessed by the Committee to develop "Composite Security Plan" for Indian Railways, has been taken into consideration for including the station under Integrated Security System.

Sale of Janta food items

139. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has decided to stop the sale of all low cost food items called as Janta food items at all important stations in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Security arrangements at stations

140. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that security measures at the stations and railway premises are insufficient;

(b) if so, the details of the additional measures taken in view of the recent bomb blasts in different places of the country;

(c) whether Government is also aware that security personnel sit idle during their duty hours; and